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Higher Education Conclave: Experts Stress On Raising Standard Of Teachers To Attract More Students

'NEP a game changer for higher edu'

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Lucknow: University Grants Commission secretary Rajnish Jain said the National Education Policy is a game changer as it is transforming higher education in a big way.

Speaking at TOI's higher education conclave in the city on Saturday, he said, "Multidisciplinary education in NEP is making holistic development possible hence all academic institutes should implement it to ensure quality education and attract foreign students."

A panel discussion on 'UP for UP: Pradesh me Sthaniya Sansthan ka Prasar- exploring partnerships with private universities to expand in Uttar Pradesh' was also held in which experts emphasised the importance of research, good faculty, national level ranking and others to make UP a favourite education destination.

"Concept of education is embedded and deeply rooted in the conduct of quality research work and good faculty. We should always remember that education should be student-centric," said vice-chancellor of Bennett University Prof Prabhu Aggarwal.

He added: "Student is looking for a product be it a quality-driven education, industry linkages or internships, getting trained in the latest hardware and software or others. We take industry linkages and internships very seriously, and for this, we have a special industry advisory board. We don't interact with industries in a manner that 'placement karwa do' (get our students placed). We say how can we keep exploring opportunities together, advise us in various activities, come up with projects

which are of great help and enhance quality." Chancellor of Galgotias University Suneel Galgotia said: "To run good institutions, getting a good faculty is a challenge. We should focus on getting quality teachers from country and abroad. Rankings like National Institutional Framework Ranking and NAAC help institutions to maintain high standards."

Pro-chancellor of Integral University Syed Nadeem Akhtar and director SRMS International Business School Prof Shyamal Gupta batted for easy student loans, mobility and accessibility for reaching good academic institutes and motivating teachers to give 200% in shaping a student's future.

In another session on India and global for UP: Pradesh me Rashtriya Sansthan ka Prasaar- exploring partnership with Private universities in India and abroad, UGC secretary advised UP universities to set up an office of international affairs to attract foreign students. He said institutions should provide best facilities to foreign students. VC of Christ University Father Abraham VM said: "It is only quality education that attracts students and quality can be assured through NAAC and other evaluations." Shoolini University VC Prof Atul Khosla advised universities to collaborate with each other so that the best practices followed by an institution can be adopted by others. NMIMS University pro-VC Meena Chintamaneni and MD of SDA Bocconi Asia Central, Mumbai, Alessandro Giuliani said to attract students and increase gross enrollment ratio the yardstick should be quality of education.



Discussion on educational zones

In a panel discussion, experts brainstormed on realizing UP's vision to establish educational zones. The session was chaired by education advisor to chief minister and former UGC chairman DP Singh. VC of Mahayogi Gorakhnath University Major Gen Atul Bajpai, Indian Institute of Management Lucknow faculty Sanjay Singh and dean Era's Lucknow Medical College and hospital MMA Faridi highlighted various ways to identify and establish education zones.



(Clockwise from top) Panel discussion at the conclave; audience at the venue; Bennett University vice-chancellor Prof Prabhu Aggarwal; principal secretary higher education department Sudhir Mahadev Bobde and UGC secretary Prof Rajnish Jain